

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-5. (cancelled)
6. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a hepatic glutathione increasing compound and a hepatic nitric oxide-increasing compound.
7. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one of nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.
8. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6 further ~~including~~ comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.
9. (currently amended) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient having lower than normal hepatic glutathione levels, said method comprising: selecting a patient suffering from insulin resistance; determining if hepatic glutathione levels are lower than normal in the patient; and administering ~~a compound which increases hepatic glutathione and a compound which increases hepatic nitric oxide~~ the composition of claim 6.
10. (currently amended) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient comprising administering ~~a compound which increases hepatic glutathione and a compound which increases hepatic nitric oxide ("NO")~~ the composition of claim 6.
11. (currently amended) The composition of claim 6 further ~~including~~ comprising a

pharmaceutically acceptable liver-targeting substance.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the insulin resistance is HISS-dependent insulin resistance (~~"HDIR"~~) (HDIR).

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~4~~ 9 wherein the hepatic glutathione-increasing compound administered causes an increase in hepatic glutathione synthesis.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the glutathione-increasing compound is at least one of N-acetylcysteine, cysteine esters, L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (~~"OTC"~~) (OTC), gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, glutathione ethyl ester, glutathione isopropyl ester, lipoic acid, cystine, cysteine, methionine, and S-adenosylmethionine (~~"SAm"~~) (SAm).

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the nitric oxide-increasing compound is at least one of SIN-1, molsidamine, nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~4~~ 9 wherein the ~~glutathione-increasing compound~~ composition is administered orally.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~4~~ 9 wherein the ~~glutathione-increasing compound~~ composition is administered by intravenous injection.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~4~~ 9 wherein the ~~glutathione-increasing compound~~ composition is 8-bromo-cGMP.

19-20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 9 wherein the compound which increases nitric oxide is SIN-1.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 9 wherein the compound which increases hepatic NO is molsidamine.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 9 further ~~including~~ comprising administering a pharmaceutically acceptable anti-oxidant.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 9 wherein the patient suffers from at least one of non-insulin dependent diabetes, essential hypertension, metabolic obesity, chronic liver disease, fetal alcohol effects, old age and a chronic inflammatory disease.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 9 wherein the patient is a human.

26-28. (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 further ~~including~~ comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

30. (currently amended) The composition of claim 7 further ~~including~~ comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable liver-targeting substance.

31. (new) The method of claim 9 wherein administering the composition improves glucose uptake in said patient.